

Message Text

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16

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 108284

P R 080805Z APR 76

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3922

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0302

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAG PINS ET

SUBJECT: III

REF: KHARTOUM 0974

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1. CONGEN STRONGLY ENDORSES POINTS RAISED REFTTEL CONCERNING FUT-
ILITY OF CONTACTS WITH OSMAN SALEH SABBE CONCERNING RELEASE OF
CAMPBELL AND HARRELL. IN VIEW ESTABLISHED FACT THAT BITTER
SCHISM BETWEEN INTERNAL (MILITARY) AND EXTERNAL (POLITICAL)
LEADERSHIP OF PLF EXISTS, ANY SUCH EFFORT WOULD ONLY
FURTHER OBFUSCATE ISSUE AND POSSIBLY INJECT ADDITIONAL OBSTACLES
IN PATH OF EVENTUAL RELEASE.

2. WITH REFERENCE TO MICHALKE, CONGEN IS EXTREMELY CONCERNED
THAT, AFTER THREE AND A HALF MONTHS OF CAPTIVITY, THERE HAS BEEN
NO FIRM WORD ON WHO ABDUCTED HIM AND WHO IS HOLDING HIM. FURTHER,
IN CONTRAST TO CISCO II AND KAGNEW II, THERE HAVE BEEN NO CONTACTS
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WITH MICHALKE BY FOREIGN PRESS, OR CLAIMS THAT HIS ABDUCTION WAS

LINKED TO SPECIFIC INSURGENT OBJECTIVES. LIKEWISE, NEITHER CONGEN NOR OTHER POSTS HAVE RECEIVED EVEN UNSUBSTANTIATED REPORTS ON HIS PERSONAL WELFARE OR HIS LOCATION.

3. AS KHARTOUM HAS RECORDED SUCH MARKED SUCCESS IN DEALING THROUGH GOS WITH ELF, WE BELIEVE PRIORITY ATTENTION SHOULD NOW BE FOCUSED VIA THESE CHANNELS TO OBTAIN HARD INFORMATION ON

PAGE 3 RUFTEFA5302 C O N F I D E N T I A L

MICHALKE. EVEN IF RELEASE CANNOT BE EFFECTED IMMEDIATELY, ALL INTERESTED PARTIES WOULD CERTAINLY WELCOME SOME ASSURANCE OF HIS WELL-BEING, AND AN INDICATION OF HIS CAPTORS' INTENTIONS.
SHERRY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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